



HomeRun

YEAR 10 SEMINAR
WEEK SRATING 2ND JUNE 2025



Welcome to Half-Term 6!

What are you going to ensure you do this half-term?



College Interview Questions



- ✓ Tell me about your attendance throughout KS4...
- ✓ What evidence do you have around your commitment to education?
- ✓ Explain to me how strong your attendance and punctuality is...

YOUR SELLING POINTS: **EMPLOYABILITY**



YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURE

How you can evidence that you attend and value education – your reliability!



YOUR CLASSCHARTS PROFILE

How you can evidence that you value and respect education – your attitude in life!



YOUR PERSONAL SKILLS & QUALITIES

How you can evidence the rewards, extra commitments and how much you can talk confidently about yourself.

Y10 COMMUNICATION: GENERAL



May	June	July
1 Th	1 Su	1 Tu
2 Fr	2 Mo ²³	2 We
3 Sa	3 Tu	3 Th
4 Su	4 We	4 Fr
5 Mo ^{Early May Bk. Hol. 19}	5 Th	5 Sa
6 Tu	6 Fr	6 Su
7 We	7 Sa	7 Mo ²⁸
8 Th	8 Su	8 Tu
9 Fr	9 Mo ²⁴	9 We
10Sa	10Tu	10Th
11Su	11We	11Fr
12Mo ²⁰	12Th	12Sa
13Tu	13Fr	13Su
14We	14Sa	14Mo ²⁹
15Th	15Su	15Tu
16Fr	16Mo ²⁵	16We
17Sa	17Tu	17Th
18Su	18We	18Fr
19Mo ²¹	19Th	19Sa
20Tu	20Fr	20Su
21We	21Sa	21Mo ³⁰
22Th	22Su	22Tu
23Fr	23Mo ²⁶	23We
24Sa	24Tu	24Th
25Su	25We	25Fr
26Mo ^{Spring Bk. Hol. 22}	26Th	26Sa
27Tu	27Fr	27Su
28We	28Sa	28Mo ³¹
29Th	29Su	29Tu
30Fr	30Mo ²⁷	30We
31Sa		31Th

- ✓ 7 weeks until the 6-week holidays.
- ✓ When you return, you will be in Year 11.
- ✓ You are now preparing for your end-of-year exams which will take place in 2 weeks time.
- ✓ Rewards trips take place in September.

Y10 COMMUNICATION: GENERAL



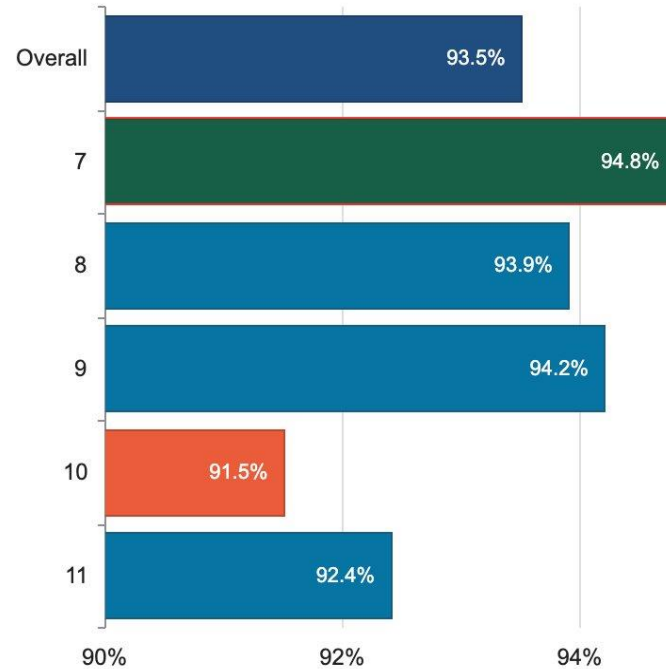
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28 We	28 Sa	28 Mo
29 Th	29 Su	29 Tu
30 Fr	30 Mo	30 We
31 Sa		31 Th

- ✓ Year 11 have started their GCSE exams! This means that you enter what we call our GCSE REVISION SCHEDULE.
- ✓ You will still be taught by your curriculum teachers and follow your curriculum study. All that will change is the periods in which you have your lessons.
- ✓ There will be some minor changes where you will have dedicated curriculum sessions.
- ✓ It is important that you follow and respect the changes which support Year 11. You will have your turn next year.
- ✓ A reminder that conduct should remain excellent and nothing less! You have some important end of year exams to prepare for which will inform any changes for Year 11 next year.

Y10 COMMUNICATION: ATTENDANCE (HT5)



Overall



ATTENDANCE

Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

89% or below

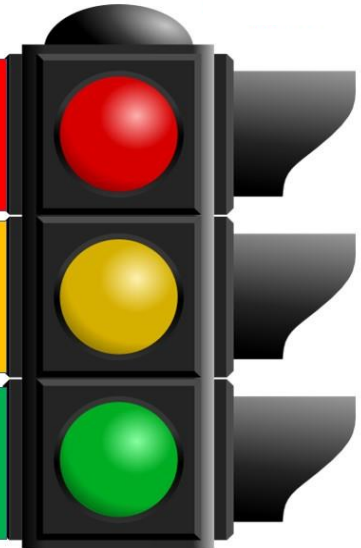
Drastic effect on
academic achievement

96% - 90%

Cause for Concern

100% - 97%

Excellent!



- ✓ Our school achieves better than all schools nationally, but individual students are falling below expectations.
- ✓ We all should be having 96% **minimum** in our minds in readiness for College applications and securing a place.



ATTENDANCE

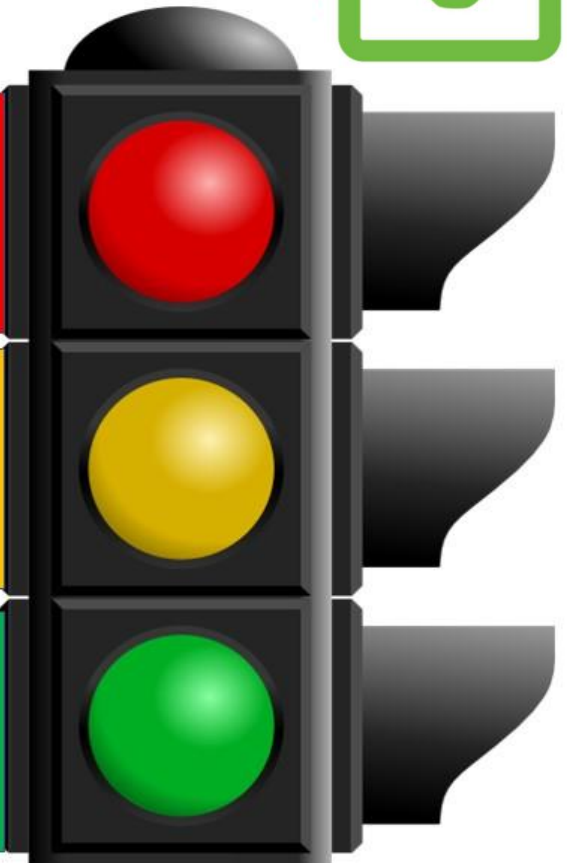
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Y10 COMMUNICATION: EXAM BOARDS



1. ENTRY LEVEL MATHS - AQA
2. ENTRY LEVEL SCIENCE - AQA
3. ENTRY LEVEL GEOGRAPHY – OCR
4. ENTRY LEVEL HISTORY - OCR
5. STEP UP TO ENGLISH - AQA
6. FUNCTIONAL SKILLS ENGLISH LEVEL 2 - AQA
7. ART & DESIGN (ART, CRAFT & DESIGN) - AQA
8. ART & DESIGN (PHOTOGRAPHY) - AQA
9. BIOLOGY - AQA
10. CHEMISTRY - AQA
11. PHYSICS - AQA
12. COMBINED SCIENCE (TRILOGY) - AQA
13. ENGLISH LANGUAGE - AQA
14. ENGLISH LITERATURE - AQA
15. GEOGRAPHY - AQA
16. MATHS (HIGHER) - AQA
17. MATHS (FOUNDATION) - OCR
18. RELIGIOUS STUDIES - AQA
19. POLISH – AQA
20. GERMAN - PEARSON EDEXCEL
21. FRENCH - PEARSON EDEXCEL
22. ARABIC - PEARSON EDEXCEL
23. HISTORY - AQA
24. ITALIAN - AQA
25. PERSIAN - PEARSON EDEXCEL
26. SPANISH - AQA
27. PERFORMING ARTS - WJEC
28. COMPUTING (DIT) - PEARSON EDEXCEL
29. MUSIC - PEARSON EDEXCEL
30. BUSINESS & ENTERPRISE - NCFE
31. HEALTH & FITNESS - NCFE
32. FOOD & COOKERY - NCFE

Many of you have completed some coursework elements for some of your qualifications. You should know what grade your coursework equates to in terms of grades.



GCSE 9-1 Points		BTEC First Award		BTEC Tech Award	
Grade & Points	Grade terms	Grade	Points	Grade	Points
9		L2 D*	8.5	L2 D*	8.5
8					
7		L2 D	7	L2 D	7
6		L2 M	5.5	L2 M	5.5
5					
	Strong Pass (DfE)				
4	Standard Pass (DfE)	L2 P	4	L2 P	4
3				L1 D	3
2		Level 1 Pass	1.75	L1 M	2
1				L1 P	1.25
U		U	0	U	0



CONTEXTUALISED READING





Half of all autism TikToks misleading

Commodifying neurodiversity: A growing number of content creators have branded themselves autism influencers, and use social media to share aspects of their life, as well as earning money from their videos.



Is self-diagnosis a bad idea? Autism diagnoses are rapidly growing. It could be that more people are checking out their condition. Or it could be the result of misinformation.

1. Flora Vesterberg always knew there was something different about her — and not just because she is 62nd in line to the British throne. The 30-year-old art historian and broadcaster wrote in the magazine *Vogue*: “Earlier this year, I was diagnosed with autism. I’ve struggled quietly with the challenges of my **neurodiversity** (The idea that different people experience and interact with the world around them in different ways.) since childhood.” Knowing gave her relief. Autism is a **neurodevelopment** (The brain’s development of systems or networks responsible for learning, memory, social skills, and overall brain function.) disorder. People are born with it, but the signs may not be clear until later.
2. Autistic people’s brains work differently to those of people considered **neurotypical** (A person who thinks, behaves and sees the world in a way that is considered “the norm” by the general population.). This can make it difficult for them to communicate with others. They sometimes avoid eye contact. They often find it hard to understand other people’s emotions, which can make them seem blunt. Autism is often visualised as a **spectrum** (A word used to classify something in terms of its position on a scale between two extreme points.). Every case is different. Some are so mild that they require no support. Other people require daily help.
3. Autism frequently overlaps with another condition, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD). This is characterised by impulsiveness and a difficulty focusing. The rate of autism and ADHD **diagnosis** (The process of identifying a condition, injury or disease by looking for the signs and symptoms of that condition.) has grown rapidly in recent years. One UK study found eight times as many diagnoses in 2018 as in 1998. As autism expert Ginny Russell says: “It was an enormous increase best described as **exponential** (Growing or increasing very rapidly.)”
4. It could be that more people are autistic. It could be that more people are revealing their condition. Or it could be that our definition of autism has become wider. This rise has been shadowed by the appearance of autism influencers. Some of them are hugely successful. Morgan Foley has 578,000 followers. Chloe Hayden has 1.1 million. And Paige Layle has an astonishing 2.7 million, with videos that have reached over 5 million people. These influencers might have good intentions. They explain their experiences living with autism and fight back against **prejudices** (Ideas about something, especially a group of people, that are not based on reality.).
5. Health experts are worried, however, that they are leading teens to diagnose themselves with the condition — despite no medical proof. This happens in part because TikTok’s algorithms select content based on what you have already seen. Watch one video about ADHD, for example, and it will feed you more and more. As psychiatrist Jessica Gold says: “And then you start to believe you have ADHD or autism.” The TikTok videos are often incorrect. Daydreaming, poor time management or social awkwardness are depicted as surefire signs of autism, when in reality many non-autistic people share these traits. One research project classified 41% of autism adverts as “inaccurate” and 32% more as “overgeneralised”.
6. Influencers also glamourise autism. Few of them suffer from the condition’s more severe consequences. Perhaps these problems are worth enduring if self-diagnosis does help more people realise a genuine condition, and find ways to come to terms with it, some say. The rise in diagnoses might lead to more awareness of autism and ADHD, less **stigma** (A mark of shame or disgrace that sets a person apart from others.) In the 16th Century, it referred to a literal mark branded into the skin, against it, and more research into ways to deal with the condition.

Is self-diagnosis a bad idea?

Check yourself

- **Yes:** We should always ask an expert about any health issue. Self-diagnosis can lead to misdiagnosis. We might believe we have one condition but have another, which due to our mistake goes untreated.
- **No:** Some people might falsely self-diagnose. However, the fact that more individuals are willing to speak about their neurodiversity can only be a good thing. It will encourage more understanding and expert support.
- **Or...** We should not base our identity on a self-diagnosed condition. However self-diagnosis can be a useful first stage. If we think we have a health condition, we should then go to a doctor to confirm it.



Connect

How do you feel about this story?

Do you believe you have an undiagnosed condition?

Construct

What is your point of view?

How can misinformation on social media be stopped?

Express

What do others believe?

“We should never rely on social media for life advice.”

Hold a class discussion.

Reflect

What might happen next?

Write a story in which you reveal an imagined condition and its effect on your life.